

Claim Amendments

Claims 1 -3. (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence consisting of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 1;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence consisting of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 3; and
- (d) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(c).

Claims 5 -7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended) A nucleic acid vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 5 4.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) A host cell containing the vector of claim 8. A nucleic acid vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.

Claims 10-23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (Previously Presented). A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 9 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering the peptide from the host cell culture.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented). An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 8, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, virus, and bacteriophage.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 8, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that the protein of SEQ ID NO: 2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 28, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence